

## **BENTON COUNTY Tobacco Use Statistics**

### **ADULTS**

#### **Adult Tobacco Use**

- Our most recent survey data showed that about 17.5% of adults in Benton County smoke cigarettes.<sup>1</sup>

#### **Quit Line**

- 202 people from Benton County called the Quit Line last year.<sup>2</sup>

### **YOUTH**

#### **Current Cigarette Smoking**

- Our most recent survey data showed:<sup>3</sup>
  - 6<sup>th</sup> grade: 2.1% in Benton County, and 2.2% statewide, reported they currently smoke cigarettes.
  - 8<sup>th</sup> grade: 6.4% in Benton County, and 9.2% statewide, reported they currently smoke cigarettes.
  - 10<sup>th</sup> grade: \*\* in Benton County, and 15.0% statewide, reported they currently smoke cigarettes.
  - 12<sup>th</sup> grade: \*\* in Benton County, and 22.7% statewide, reported they currently smoke cigarettes.

### **PREGNANT WOMEN**

#### **Smoking During Pregnancy**

- About 12.8% of pregnant women in Benton County smoke during pregnancy, compared to 12.0% statewide.<sup>4</sup>
- About 250 infants are born each year in Benton County to mothers who smoke during pregnancy.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Data are from the 2003 Department of Health Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). A 'current smoker' reports having smoked at least 100 cigarettes in their lifetime and also responds "every day" or "some days" to the question "Do you smoke cigarettes now?" This estimate has a  $\pm 4.5\%$  margin of error – this means that the "true" population value (percent of current smokers) is most likely somewhere in this range of the reported percentage, but may not be exactly equal to the reported percentage.

<sup>2</sup> Data include counts of tobacco users, health care provider, and other callers seeking information from the Washington State Tobacco Quit Line between January 1, 2003, and December 31, 2003, who identified themselves as being residents of Benton County.

<sup>3</sup> Data for Benton County were collected from youth who participated in the Washington State Healthy Youth Survey (HYS) in Fall 2002. The 95% confidence intervals for estimates in Benton County are: 6<sup>th</sup> grade (1.4,3.1) and 8<sup>th</sup> grade (5.2,7.9). The confidence intervals mean that the "true" population value (percent of current smokers) is most likely somewhere in the range of the reported percentage, but may not be exactly equal to the reported percentage.

Data for Washington were collected as part of a statewide sample of youth for the Washington State Healthy Youth Survey (HYS) in Fall 2002. The 95% confidence intervals for estimates are: 6<sup>th</sup> grade (1.8,2.6), 8<sup>th</sup> grade (8.1,10.3), 10<sup>th</sup> grade (13.6,16.4), and 12<sup>th</sup> grade (20.5,25.0).

<sup>4</sup> Data are from 2002 Washington State Birth Certificates. 95% confidence intervals are also reported in addition to birth certificate data. The confidence intervals for Benton County are (11.3,14.4); the confidence intervals for Washington State are (11.7,12.2). Women who answer 'yes' to the question "Did mother smoke at any time during pregnancy?" are classified as smokers. Health risk behaviors like smoking during pregnancy may be underreported due to growing social unacceptability of unhealthy behaviors during pregnancy.

<sup>5</sup> The number of infants born to mothers who smoke during pregnancy are calculated using an average of the births to mothers who report smoking on the Birth Certificate from 2000-2002. The estimate is rounded to the nearest factor of ten.